



**Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development  
Alaska Workforce Investment Board**

**Executive Director's Report  
May 18, 2009**

The Youth Council meeting is being held at the Alaska Job Corps Center in Palmer on May 27<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The AWIB will be meeting on May 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> at the Mat-Su Career and Technical High School in Wasilla. The agenda was sent to the AWIB and is posted on the AWIB website. Staff are preparing board binders for the meeting and making final arrangements. The AWIB website will be updated with the Web Binder as soon as presentations are received.

On April 7, 2009 a public notice was issued by the Division of Business Partnerships requesting Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Youth Program, Alaska Youth First Program, and Denali Training Fund Youth Program grant applications for State Fiscal Year 2010. The applications were due on or before May 1, 2009 at 5:00 p.m. David Kvasager and Heidi Frost of the Youth Council will participate in the review of the grant applications the week of May 18<sup>th</sup>.

On April 13, 2009 a public notice was issued by the Division of Business Partnerships, on behalf of the AWIB, requesting State Training and Employment (STEP) grant applications for State Fiscal Year 2010. The application deadline was Tuesday, May 12, 2009 at 5:00 p.m. Three AWIB members will be participating in the STEP grant reviews on June 17<sup>th</sup> in Anchorage, including Linda Hulbert, Cynthia Erickson, and John MacKinnon.

On April 15<sup>th</sup>, the Department of Labor and Workforce Development sent a letter to the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment Training Administration requesting a one year extension of the Alaska Strategic Two-Year State Plan for Title 1 of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 and the Wagner-Peyser Act through PY 2009, which covers the period of July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010. The U.S. Department of Labor has requested necessary modifications to the PY 2009 State Plan, including proposed strategies for implementation of additional funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009.

On April 30<sup>th</sup>, the Department of Labor and Workforce Development sponsored the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Apprenticeship Conference "Building Alaska's Future" at the Hotel Captain Cook in Anchorage. More than 230 attended the Apprenticeship Conference, which featured tracks for employers and educators, including the benefits of apprenticeship, successful partnerships and outcomes, and an employer and education exchange. John Ladd, Administrator of the U.S. Department of Labor, Office of

Apprenticeship and John MacKinnon, Executive Director of Associated General Contractors addressed the Conference over the lunch hour.

Commissioner Bishop presented the 2009 Apprenticeship Awards for Employers of the Year to CH2M Hill, Behrends Mechanical, and Chugach Electric, Instructors of the Year to Ken Wilkinson from the Alaska Operating Engineers-Employers Training Trust and Pete Leov from the Alaska Joint Electrical Apprenticeship and Training Trust (AJEATT) Lineman Apprenticeship program, and Apprentice of the Year to Deborah Kelly a seventh-step apprentice from the AJEATT power lineman program.

On May 14<sup>th</sup>, the Policy & Planning/ Assessment & Evaluation Committee and members of the AWIB were given an overview of the modifications to Alaska Strategic Two-Year State Plan for Title 1 of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 and the Wagner-Peyser Act and proposed strategies for implementation of ARRA funds to the State Plan for PY 2009. All AWIB members have the opportunity to provide input by close of business at 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, May 20<sup>th</sup>. Recommendations from the Policy & Planning/ Assessment & Evaluation Committee and AWIB will be incorporated into the State Plan. On May 29, 2009, the State Plan will be presented to the full board in Wasilla seeking a resolution of support to forward for public comment and submission to the U.S. Department of Labor by June 30, 2009.

### **Committees**

- The next Youth Council meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 27<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- The next Workforce Readiness and Employment Placement Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 4<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m.
- The next Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 9<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.
- The next Policy Planning and Assessment and Evaluation Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 23<sup>rd</sup> at 10:00 a.m.